IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

October Term, 1980

No. _____

RECEIVED
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SUPREME COURT, U.S.

C.P.,

Petitioner

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
SUPREME COURT, U.S. POLICE
DATE 7-28-80 TIME 6:15PM
NAME Ulrich #63

v.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

Respondent

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS

The petitioner, C.P., respectfully moves pursuant to Rule 46(1) of the Rules of this Court for leave to file the attached petition for writ of certiorari without prepayment of costs and to proceed in forma pauperis. As grounds for this request, petitioner asserts:

1. Petitioner is filing this 28th day of July, 1980, a petition for writ of certiorari to review the judgment and opinion of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, which affirmed his adjudication of guilt in the Family Division, Juvenile Branch of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

2. Counsel was appointed to represent the petitioner in both the Superior Court and the Court of Appeals under the Dsitrict of Columbia Criminal Justice Act, 11 D.C. Code § 2601 et seq.

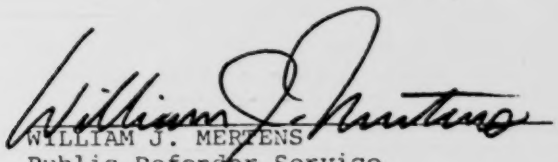
3. Because of his poverty, petitioner is unable to pay for the costs of this case and is unable to give security for the same.

4. The petition that is attached hereto seeks review of the decision of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals that affirmed the trial court's denial of his motion to suppress a confession that, in his view, was obtained in violation of the requirements of Miranda v. Arizona, 384 U.S. 436 (1966).

WHEREFORE, for these reasons, petitioner respectfully requests leave to proceed in forma pauperis.

Respectfully submitted,

SILAS J. WASSERSTROM



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July 28, 1980

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

October Term, 1980

No. _____

C.P.,

Petitioner

v.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

Respondent

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the police violated the thirteen-year-old petitioner's Fifth Amendment rights when, after he invoked his right to remain silent and his right to counsel, they nevertheless continued to speak to him by informing him that his companions all placed the blame on him for the offense for which he had been arrested, and when they arranged a confrontation between petitioner and his mother, whom they had told to urge petitioner to talk.

2. Whether petitioner validly waived his privilege against self-incrimination when the only evidence of that waiver was that sometime after he asserted his right to remain silent and to an attorney, he nonetheless confessed at the behest of his mother, who had been summoned by the police station and urged by them to encourage her son to confess.

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C.P.,

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v.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

Respondent

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS

The petitioner, C.P., respectfully prays that a writ of certiorari issue to review the judgment and opinion of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals entered in this proceeding on February 15, 1980.

OPINION BELOW

The opinion of the Court of Appeals is reported at 411 A.2d 643, and is reproduced, infra. (App. A, infra, 1a - 27a). The Superior Court of the District of Columbia entered no opinion.

JURISDICTION

The judgment of the Court of Appeals was entered on February 15, 1980. The petitioner's petition for rehearing and suggestion for rehearing en banc was denied on April 28, 1980, with three judges of the Court of Appeals voting to grant re-

hearing. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U.S.C. §1257(3). 1/

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION INVOLVED

United States Constitution, Amendment V:

No person . . . shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself. . . .

1/ Under 16 D.C. Code §2318, adjudications of guilt in juvenile delinquency proceedings in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia are deemed not to constitute convictions for crimes. In other respects, such proceedings are also deemed civil. E.g., 16 D.C. Code §2324(a)(1). The time for filing a petition for certiorari thus seems to be that set in 28 U.S.C. §2101(c).

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Petitioner was found guilty in the Juvenile Branch of the Family Division of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia of attempted robbery while armed in violation of 22 D.C. Code §§2902, 3202. (Case Number J-1822-77). The evidence against him included his confession on the night of his arrest, which he had unsuccessfully moved to suppress on constitutional grounds. He appealed to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, but a divided panel of that court held that the police had not violated the dictates of Miranda v. Arizona, 384 U.S. 436 (1966) in obtaining the confession. His petition for rehearing was denied on April 28, 1980, with three judges voting to grant it.

At about 10:45 on the night of April 29, 1977, Officer Spooner Underwood of the Metropolitan Police of the District of Columbia arrested C.P. and three other juveniles for attempted robbery. (Tr. of 9/22/77 at 14). 2/ According to Underwood's testimony at a pre-trial hearing on petitioner's motion to suppress his confession, C.P. was taken first to a police substation and then to the robbery squad office, where he arrived at about midnight. At 2:24 on the morning of April 30, another policeman gave petitioner the so-called Miranda warnings. Petitioner, in response, asserted on a card that was provided him that he did not want to answer questions and that he wanted an

---

2/ Petitioner's juvenile court trial commenced on Friday, September 22, 1977. The first order of business was a hearing on his motion to suppress his confession. The trial concluded on Monday, September 26, 1977, with the court adjudicating him guilty. A two-volume transcript of these proceedings is in the record on appeal.

attorney present. (Tr. of 9/22/77 at 5, 18). Nonetheless, about a half an hour later, Underwood ushered petitioner and his mother, who had been summoned to the robbery squad, into a small interview room. The officer closed the door behind the three of them. According to Underwood (Tr. of 9/22/77 at 8):

> I [then] stated to Mr. P. and his mother that I spoke with the other respondents and they had confessed to the dealings in the crime, and that they had put most of the weight on Mr. P., pointing a finger saying he was more involved in the crime than the other two. [sic].

The officer then orally readvised petitioner of his Miranda rights, although he did not again ask him whether he wanted to waive his rights, and watched and listened as petitioner's mother pressed him to confess, which he soon did.

Petitioner's mother also testified at the suppression hearing. She said that when she arrived at the robbery squad, she was allowed to sit with her son. She testified that an officer was asking petitioner to talk about the offense, and that she assisted him in reading a card with which he was having trouble. She helped him read certain words that he did not recognize, but said that she could not help him understand the card's significance; neither she nor her 13-year-old son had been in such a situation before. (Tr. 9/22/77 at 24, 30, 33-35). One officer told her that petitioner was the only one of the arrested juveniles who would not talk, and she was told that she "should get [petitioner] to tell what happened because he was in serious trouble." (Tr. of 9/22/77 at 28-29, 31). So she later urged him to tell the police the truth. At first, he resisted. He repeatedly said that he did not want to say anything. But she "just kept repeating to him to tell the truth, tell the man the truth, tell what happened," and petitioner then finally con-

fessed to Underwood. (Tr. of 9/22/77 at 32-33). 3/

REASONS FOR GRANTING THE PETITION

1. THE HOLDING OF THE COURT OF APPEALS THAT OFFICER UNDERWOOD'S CONDUCT DID NOT CONSTITUTE CUSTODIAL INTERROGATION SQUARELY CONFLICTS WITH THIS COURT'S RECENT DECISION IN RHODE ISLAND V. INNIS, 100 S.CT. 1682 (1980).

After petitioner requested counsel, and informed the police that he did not want to be questioned, the police, by their subsequent conduct, nevertheless succeeded in extracting a confession from him. Officer Underwood told him that each of the other juveniles arrested with him had confessed and had, moreover, attempted to place most of the blame on him. The officer also isolated petitioner and his mother with himself in a robbery squad interview room. By the mother's account, she had been told that she should persuade petitioner to break his silence, for he was in a serious predicament. So she pressured him, and he did finally speak the words that would later be used against him to secure his conviction at trial.

3/ The majority and the dissenting opinions in the Court of Appeals differ on the weight that should now be accorded the testimony of C.P.'s mother. Significantly, government counsel, in argument before the trial court, never sought to rebut the mother's testimony. Indeed, he seems to have conceded its accuracy and sought only to harmonize it with what his own witness, Officer Underwood, had said. (Tr. of 9/22/77, at 38, 40):

> Now, testimony has been, and I believe it essentially has been consistent between the two witnesses, that what happened was that perhaps it would be better if he said something if she could talk to him. . . .
>
> What the officer said to the mother was it would be better if you got your son to tell the truth. He would be better off. His mother in turn told him that she wanted him to tell the truth.

And the trial court never expressly -- nor, in petitioner's view, even implicitly -- rejected the mother's testimony.

If what the police did amounted to interrogation, then his confession should surely have been suppressed. 4/ For in Miranda v. Arizona, supra, this Court established safeguards that provided, among other things,

> that if the accused indicates in any manner that he wishes to remain silent or to consult an attorney, interrogation must cease, and any statement obtained from him during interrogation thereafter may not be admitted against him at his trial.

Fare v. Michael C., 99 S.Ct. 2560, 2563 (1979). Neither petitioner's "right to cut off questioning" nor his right to counsel had been "scrupulously honored." See Michigan v. Mosely 423 U.S. 96, 104 (1975).

The Court of Appeals' decision therefore rests on the conclusion that this conduct was not interrogation within the meaning of Miranda. This Court's recent decision in Rhode Island v. Innis, 100 S.Ct. 1682 (1980), however, made it clear, if it was not clear before, that such conduct may be interrogation in fact, even if it is not police questioning in form. The Court in that case said, in explication of Miranda, that (id. at 1689):

4/ Although this Court in Fare v. Michael C., 99 S.Ct. 2560, 2567, n.4 (1979), noted that it had never expressly held that persons subject to prosecution in juvenile court are entitled to Miranda protections, the District of Columbia has never challenged petitioner's right to those protections, and the Court of Appeals has held that such protections do apply. E.g., In the Matter of R.A.H., 314 A.2d 133 (D.C. Ct. App. 1974).

Furthermore, in Michigan v. Mosley, 423 U.S. 96 (1975), the Court noted that the Miranda decision indicated that interrogation must cease when a suspect says that he does not want to be questioned further. But Miranda was silent on the question of when, and under what conditions, questioning might then resume. The Mosley Court contrasted this with what Miranda said must happen if a suspect asks to consult with an attorney: all questioning must then cease until this request is honored. See id. at 100 & n.7. Petitioner here made a request to speak with a lawyer; the police never honored it; and instead, in petitioner's view, they impermissibly continued interrogation after only a very short break.

> [T]he term "interrogation" under Miranda refers not only to express questioning, but also to any words or actions on the part of the police (other than those normally attendant to arrest and custody) that the police should know are reasonably likely to elicit an incriminating response by the suspect. (Footnotes omitted)

And the Court added (id. at 1690 n.8):

> Any knowledge the police may have had concerning the unusual susceptibility of a defendant to a particular form of persuasion might be an important factor in determining whether the police should have known that their words or actions were reasonably likely to elicit an incriminating response from the suspect.

Surely Officer Underwood knew when he informed petitioner, a naive juvenile, in the isolation of a robbery squad interview room at 2:30 in the morning, that his cohorts had confessed and placed principal blame on him that this statement was likely to elicit an admission. In such a context, repeating the companions accusations surely cried out for a response. Indeed, the positing of guilt was long recognized as an effective interrogation technique, even well before Miranda. See, e.g., Escobedo v. Illinois, 378 U.S. 478, 483 (1964); Ashcraft v. Tennessee, 322 U.S. 143, 151 (1944); Bram v. United States, 168 U.S. 532, 562 (1897); see generally Kamisar, Brewer v. Williams, Massiah, and Miranda: What is "Interrogation"? When Does It Matter?, 67 Geo. L. J. 1, 14-24 (1978). And enlisting the assistance of petitioner's mother, even if she did not thereby become an agent of the police, of course could be expected to elicit a confession. A more effective means to break the resistance of a recalcitrant 13-year-old suspect short of physical violence, can hardly be imagined.

But the majority opinion of the Court of Appeals, which was rendered before the Innis decision, never addressed the question of whether what Underwood and the other officers did was reasonably likely to elicit a confession, in light of petitioner's

young age and inexperience. Instead, the Court declined to criticize what Underwood had done on the grounds that "there was nothing improper in the officer's being present while mother and son were together;" that the officer's hope that "a confession would be forthcoming", if such a hope there was, was insufficient to taint the confession; and that Underwood "did not seek to conceal his presence" and again gave Miranda warnings (albeit without again giving petitioner the opportunity to assert his right to remain silent and to have an attorney's assistance). Under the standard of Innis, however, these factors are altogether insufficient. Indeed, they are for the most part irrelevant.

Petitioner therefore respectfully requests that certiorari be granted because, when judged by the standard set forth in Innis, what occurred here was clearly custodial interrogation, and this Court should so hold. In the alternative, petitioner suggests that certiorari be granted, the judgment of the Court of Appeals vacated, and the case remanded to that court for reconsideration in light of Rhode Island v. Innis, supra, for the court below has not decided this case under the correct standard.

2. PETITIONER DID NOT KNOWINGLY AND INTELLIGENTLY WAIVE HIS RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT AND HIS RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY BEFORE HE CONFESSED

At all events, petitioner respectfully submits that this Court should review the Court of Appeals' conclusion that petitioner made a valid waiver of his rights when he admitted committing the offense for which he had been arrested. While the government ordinarily bears a heavy burden of demonstrating a knowing and intelligent waiver of constitutional rights, e.g., North Carolina v. Butler, 99 S.Ct. 1755, 1757 (1979), two factors combine to make that burden especially heavy here. First,

petitioner asserted both his right to remain silent and his right to assistance of counsel, yet the police never allowed him to speak with an attorney before he confessed. Second, petitioner was very young -- only 13 years old -- and he lacked prior experience with the police. Cf. Galleges v. Colorado, 370 U.S. 49 (1963). The decision of the court below all but ignored these factors. In finding waiver, it presumed the existence of one of the ingredients of a valid waiver -- namely an intentional relinquishment -- from a record that was silent. See Brewer v. Williams, 430 U.S. 387, 404 (1977) ("[W]aiver requires not merely comprehension but relinquishment. . . .")

This Court has not heretofore elucidated the standards for a valid waiver where a suspect, either a juvenile or an adult, invokes both his right to remain silent, and his right to the assistance of counsel. In Michigan v. Mosley, supra, the Court found a valid waiver after an assertion of the right to remain silent, but not of the right to an attorney's aid. In Fare v. Michael C., supra, the Court found a valid waiver after a juvenile unsuccessfully attempted to speak with his probation officer, but the decision rested on the conclusion that such a request simply did not deserve the consideration reserved for a request to speak with counsel; for, in our system, "the lawyer is the one person to whom society as a whole looks as the protector of legal rights. . . ." 99 S.Ct. at 2569. Finally, in Rhode Island v. Innis, supra, the Court reversed the state court's determination that the police had impermissibly continued interrogation after a suspect had invoked his right to remain silent and to consult with an attorney. But the Court did not expressly pass on a second issue the case presented, whether Innis' waiver was valid. The Court did not hold that Innis' confession was admissible but instead remanded to the Rhode Island Supreme Court, which presumably can now decide the waiver question, and, at all events, Innis, unlike the

petitioner here, expressly waived his rights before confessing.5/

Thus this case is an appropriate vehicle for a decision that could fill an important gap in Miranda jurisprudence, viz., the standards courts should apply when deciding whether a suspect has validly waived a right to counsel that he earlier asserted. And, in petitioner's view, it is clear that no valid waiver was shown here. The most that the government has shown is that petitioner indicated on a card that he understood his rights (and that he wished to assert them), and that he nonetheless later confessed. Whether or not an express waiver is necessary after a right has been invoked, compare North Carolina v. Butler, supra, (waiver may be inferred when right has not previously been asserted), here the record lacks a basis for inferring waiver. With respect to the necessary element of intentional relinquishment, waiver could be found only by inferring it from the fact that petitioner confessed, and that is clearly improper. Compare Taque v. Louisiana, 100 S.Ct. 652 (1980). The Court of Appeals' error in presuming waiver is all the more egregious in light of petitioner's youth and inexperience. Cf. In re Gault, 387 U.S. 1 (1967).

5/ In Brewer v. Williams, supra, the Court found that a suspect had not waived his Sixth Amendment right to counsel after he had asserted it. But the Court has subsequently cautioned the courts to exercise care if attempting to seek insights into Miranda from Williams, resting as the two cases do on different constitutional underpinnings. See Rhode Island v. Innis, supra, 100 S.Ct. at 1689, n.4.

CONCLUSION

For these reasons, the writ of certiorari should issue to review the judgment and opinion of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

Respectfully submitted,

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS

No. 12823

IN THE MATTER OF: C.P., APPELLANT.

Appeal from the Superior Court of the District of Columbia

(Hon. Luke C. Moore, Trial Judge)

(Argued October 3, 1978 Decided February 15, 1980)

Roger H. Moore, appointed by the court, for appellant.

Dennis McDaniel, Assistant Corporation Counsel, with whom *Louis P. Robbins*, Acting Corporation Counsel when the brief was filed and the case was argued, and *Richard W. Barton*, Deputy Corporation Counsel, were on the brief, for appellee.

Before NEBEKER, HARRIS, and FERREN, *Associate Judges*.

Opinion for the Court by *Associate Judge* HARRIS.

Dissenting opinion by *Associate Judge* FERREN at p. 13.

HARRIS, *Associate Judge*: After a factfinding hearing in the Juvenile Branch of the Family Division of the Superior Court, appellant was found guilty of attempted robbery while armed. D.C. Code 1973, §§ 22-2902, -3202.

Prior to that hearing, alleging Fifth and Sixth Amendment violations, appellant moved to suppress an inculpatory statement which he had made to his mother in the presence of a police officer at the station house, as well as a statement which he made thereafter to the officer. This appeal challenges the denial of that motion; we affirm.

I

One night at about 10:30 p.m., there was an attempted robbery of a woman who had stopped her car at a traffic light. She hurriedly drove off, frustrating the youthful would-be robbers. Shortly thereafter, appellant (who was 13 years old) and three other juveniles were arrested by Officer Spooner Underwood. They first were taken to a police substation and then to Robbery Squad Headquarters, arriving at the latter location at about midnight. Appellant made no statement at that time. Appellant's mother was called; she arrived at about 1:30 a.m. Officer Underwood told her that charges had been placed against appellant, that she could sit with her son, and that he (Officer Underwood) would talk with them later.

Appellant was given a Metropolitan Police Department rights card, which he read with his mother. While he had never had a comparable experience with law enforcement authorities before (nor had his mother), he signed the card indicating that he understood his rights. He also indicated that he did not wish to answer questions and that he did want an attorney. Appellant's mother testified at the suppression hearing that at about that time (she did not indicate exactly when) another officer remarked to her, as she sat by her son, something to the following effect: "I should get him to tell about what happened because he was in serious trouble." She also

testified that soon after appellant filled out the rights card, he repeated that he did not want to say anything.

About 30 minutes after appellant signed the rights card, Officer Underwood went with appellant and his mother into an adjoining room. He sat down with them, and again advised appellant of his rights. The officer then informed the mother that the youths who had been apprehended with her son had confessed and implicated appellant. Thereupon, as Officer Underwood sat silently, appellant's mother called on her son to tell the truth about the incident. At his mother's urging, appellant admitted to having taken part in the attempted robbery, and to having wielded a BB pistol during the episode.

Thereafter, Officer Underwood led appellant and his mother into another room where the other arrested juveniles and their parents were gathered. Each of the youths recounted the part he or she had played in the crime, with appellant apparently then adding to what he had already confessed the fact that he had pointed a pistol at the complainant during the robbery attempt.

At the suppression hearing, appellant alleged that the police officer's "use" of his mother to gain incriminating statements after appellant had indicated his desire to remain silent and to have the assistance of counsel violated both his Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights. The hearing judge, after carefully considering all the evidence and closely questioning both counsel on the nature of the alleged Fifth and Sixth Amendment violations, expressed the following extensive findings and conclusions:

> The Court finds on the basis of Defendant's Exhibit No. 1 [the rights card] that this respondent had indicated that he did not wish to make state-

ments without having an attorney present, and indeed he said he did not wish to answer any questions.

He stated, however, that he understood his rights. And he also indicated that his rights had been read to him, and to repeat, that he understood his rights.

The Court finds on the basis of [the rights card] without any evidence to the contrary that this respondent did understand his rights and that indeed he said he did not wish to answer any questions. The Court further finds that this respondent after speaking to his mother while yet in the Robbery Squad's office did state or give an incriminating statement in the presence of the officer and in the presence of the respondent's mother.

The Court finds on the basis of the testimony that that incriminating statement, the substance of which has not been revealed to the Court, was not the result of continued questioning or interrogation by the officers, but was indeed a result of a conversation between the respondent and his mother. The Court does not find that the mother employed any kind of coercion or that this was a ploy established or set up by the police for the purpose of inducing the respondent to waive his rights. Indeed it appears to the Court and the Court finds that this respondent was responding to his mother's urging, albeit, in the presence of the officer when he gave the incriminating statement.

It is a matter of policy that parents ought to be asked to come to the precinct and to the

Robbery Squad or any place else where a youngster is being held. And [defense counsel] in his argument candidly points out that the evidence certainly reveals that the officers—and also [the prosecutor] argued to that effect—that the officer did not wait until after this youngster had rendered some statements before calling in the parent. Indeed the parent was called.

And as far as it appears the officer had respected this youngster's indicating that he did not wish to speak, and as I previously stated there was no further questioning by the officers.

The Court is not prepared to hold that a parent may not ask a child to tell the truth or to make a statement concerning the incident. Whatever has been held by *Miranda* and *Gault* and other cases and including *Brewer v. Williams* [430 U.S. 387 (1977)], the latter case of course applies to *Gault*, there is certainly nothing that the Court can glean from any of them which suggests that a parent or a relative or indeed some other person may not ask a respondent or perhaps an adult to make a statement.

And if the Court need only to confine its findings in this case to a respondent, . . . on the basis then of all the evidence the Court makes the findings that it has enunciated. On the basis of those findings the Court concludes that this respondent had waived his rights [not] to speak concerning this crime, and that that waiver was not induced by any coercion on the part of the officer, and there certainly was no evidence that it was the result of any coercion on the part of the parent. Accordingly, the Court denies the motion.

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Following that determination, appellant was found guilty at a hearing in which his inculpatory statements were admitted into evidence.

II

Our scope of review is limited. *See, e.g.*, D.C. Code 1973, § 17-305(a). As reflected by the above-quoted excerpt from the transcript, the trial court found that appellant understood his Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights, that there was no police questioning after appellant had indicated his desire to remain silent and to have an attorney, and that the inculpatory statement he made in response to his mother's questioning, in the officer's presence, constituted an effective waiver of his rights. The trial court also found that appellant's mother had not been used in a police ploy to induce appellant's waiver, and that his mother did not overbear his will by coercion.[1] In short, the trial court, properly evaluating the

[1] Such findings, of course, are factual ones to be made by the trial judge, and § 17-305(a) of the Code makes it clear that we are not free to upset them unless they are without supporting evidence. To justify the position taken in his dissenting opinion, our colleague finds it necessary to make his own contrary factual finding that the mother "became an agent [of the police] for official interrogation." [*Post*, at 22.] We respectfully suggest that the dissent thus reflects a misconception of the proper nature of appellate review. It is not our role to determine how we would have ruled on the motion had we been the trial judge; our sole function is to determine whether the trial court committed reversible error.

Additionally, on several occasions our dissenting colleague characterizes certain testimony upon which he chooses to rely as "undisputed." There is no basis for such an assertion. The trial judge was free to believe or disbelieve any of the testimony. While we have studied the record to determine the existence of supportive evidence, the case must be considered

totality of the circumstances, determined that the government had satisfied its burden of showing that there had been no infringement of appellant's rights and that his confession was voluntary.[2]

The trial court's ultimate factual finding of voluntariness is not to be overturned unless it is without substantial support in the evidence. *See, e.g., Jackson v. United States*, D.C.App., 404 A.2d 911, 924 (1979); *In re W.B.W., Jr.*, D.C.App., 397 A.2d 143, 145 (1979); *Taylor v. United States*, D.C.App., 380 A.2d 989, 992 (1977); *United States v. Lyon*, D.C.App., 348 A.2d 297, 298-99 (1975); *In re M.D.J.*, D.C.App., 346 A.2d 733, 735 (1975); *United States v. McNeil*, 140 U.S.App.D.C. 3, 433 F.2d 1109 (1969).[3] The record unquestionably supports the trial court's ruling.

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by us in light of the uniquely complete findings which were made by the trial judge, including that "the mother employed [no] kind of coercion."

[2] The Supreme Court recently has noted: "[The] totality of the circumstances approach is adequate to determine whether there has been a waiver even where interrogation of juveniles is involved." *Fare v. Michael C.*, 99 S.Ct. 2560, 2572 (1979). *See also Johnson v. Zerbst*, 304 U.S. 458, 464 (1938).

[3] Some appellate courts apply an "abuse of discretion" standard of review in considering voluntariness questions. *See, e.g., State v. Weinacht*, 277 N.W.2d 567, 571 (Neb. 1979). The proper standard in this jurisdiction was stated succinctly by the circuit court in *United States v. McNeil, supra*, as follows:

> In the case at bar, however, appellant's claim of involuntariness and lack of understanding was squarely presented to the trial judge and was flatly rejected, and only if the judge's decision lacks substantial support in the evidence [are we] disposed to alter it. [140 U.S.App.D.C. at 6, 433 F.2d at 1112.]

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III

It is useful to note basically what the Supreme Court resolved in *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966). In a recent case, the Court reversed a decision of the California Supreme Court and reinstated a trial judge's determination that a juvenile's confession (given during police interrogation, which is not the situation here) had been voluntary. *Fare v. Michael C.*, 99 S.Ct. 2560 (1979). In doing so, it succinctly characterized *Miranda* as follows:

> In *Miranda* v. *Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966), this Court established certain procedural safeguards designed to protect the rights of an accused, under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments, to be free from compelled self-incrimination during custodial interrogation. The Court specified, among other things, that if the accused indicates in any manner that he wishes to remain silent or to consult an attorney, interrogation must cease, and any statement obtained from him during interrogation thereafter may not be admitted against him at his trial.[4] *Id.*, at 444-445, 473-474. [99 S.Ct. at 2563.]

Thus, it is clear that custodial interrogation (obviously by governmental authorities) is what was intended to be interdicted, and that the bedrock of *Miranda* is the Fifth Amendment right "to be free from compelled self-incrimination" or from interrogation in the face of a request

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[4] After so describing *Miranda* in *Fare v. Michael C.*, the Supreme Court went on to cite *Harris v. New York*, 401 U.S. 222 (1971), in noting that the proscription of *Miranda* is applicable "at least during the State's case-in-chief." 99 S.Ct. at 2568.

for counsel. In this case, it must be borne in mind that there was no custodial interrogation by the police.

We do, of course, continue to operate on the assumption that the principles of *Miranda* apply in cases in which there has been custodial questioning of a juvenile.[3] *See, e.g., In re Creek*, D.C.App., 243 A.2d 49 (1968). In addition, we feel obliged to consider juvenile confessions with special caution—particularly those which have been made in the absence of counsel. *See In re Gault*, 387 U.S. 1, 45 and 55 (1967). We have ruled against the use of a juvenile's confession when police overreaching has been apparent. *See, e.g., In re R.A.H.*, D.C.App., 314 A.2d 133 (1974).

On the other hand, we properly have rejected a per se proscription against the use of confessions by juveniles, holding that despite the special care that must be taken, such confessions may be obtained and used upon a clear showing of both a prior notification of rights and a subsequent knowing and intelligent waiver. *See In re W.B.W., Jr., supra*, 397 A.2d at 146; *In re F.D.P.*, D.C. App., 352 A.2d 378, 380-81 (1976); *In re J.F.T.*, D.C.

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[3] In the interest of thoroughness, however, we quote the following footnote in the Supreme Court's decision in *Fare v. Michael C., supra*:

> Indeed, this Court has not yet held that *Miranda* applies with full force to exclude evidence obtained in violation of its prescriptions from consideration in juvenile proceedings, which for certain purposes have been distinguished from formal criminal prosecutions. See *McKeiver v. Pennsylvania*, 403 U.S. 528, 540-541 (1971) (plurality opinion). We do not decide that issue today. In view of our disposition of this case, we assume without deciding that the *Miranda* principles were fully applicable to the present proceedings. [99 S.Ct. at 2567 n.4.]

App., 320 A.2d 322, 324 (1974).* *See also North Carolina v. Butler*, 99 S.Ct. 1755 (1979). Moreover, the Supreme Court has made it clear that the Constitution does not direct a complete ban on police exchange with an accused and the taking of a voluntary statement following a prior assertion of the right to remain silent. *Michigan v. Mosley*, 423 U.S. 96 (1975). *See also Peoples v. United States*, D.C.App., 395 A.2d 41 (1978); *Taylor v. United States*, *supra*, 380 A.2d at 993; *United States v. Rodriguez-Gastelum*, 569 F.2d 482, 486-88 (9th Cir. 1978) (en banc). *Cf. White v. Finkbeiner*, 26 Crim. L. Rep. 2346 (7th Cir., Dec. 7, 1979); *Nash v. Estelle*, 597 F.2d 513 (5th Cir. 1979) (en banc) (waiver following assertion of right to counsel).

Applying established law to the facts of this case, we sustain the trial court's finding, which is supported by substantial evidence, that appellant's confession was not the result of police-initiated interrogation, but rather of well-intentioned parental influence. *See In re C.P.D.*, D.C.App., 367 A.2d 133 (1976). In *C.P.D.*, *supra*, a juvenile arrestee was brought to a station house, was read his rights in the presence of his stepfather, and indicated that he did not want to answer any questions. Then, with a police officer within earshot, the youth, in response to a question from his stepfather, made an inculpatory statement. The officer was allowed to testify as to that statement; we affirmed the finding of guilt. We noted appellant's challenge to the admission of the statement on the ground that its elicitation violated his

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* We are mindful that to be acceptable, such a confession should be "voluntary, in the sense not only that it was not coerced or suggested, but also that it was not the product of ignorance of rights or of adolescent fantasy, fright or despair." *In re Gault*, *supra*, at 55 (foonote omitted).

Miranda rights, and his contention that it was not voluntarily given. After considering the evidence, we concluded:

> Since appellant's statement was not given in response to police interrogation, and since there is nothing in the record before us to indicate that it was in any way involuntarily obtained as a result of compulsion, we hold that it was correctly admitted into evidence below. [*Id.*, at 135.]

See also Fuller v. United States, 132 U.S.App.D.C. 264, 277-78, 407 F.2d 1199, 1212-14 (1967), *cert. denied*, 393 U.S. 1120 (1969).

There can be no question but that it is a desirable policy for a parent of an accused juvenile to be called to the station house, so as both to be present at the occurrences there and to be able to consult with the youth. Also, appellant properly does not challenge the fact that the officer informed his mother of the nature of the charges, and then advised both mother and son of the other youths' confessions which implicated him. This was information which mother and son were entitled to have, whatever effect it might have on them, and for whatever use they might make of it. *See, e.g., United States v. Rodriguez-Gastelum*, *supra*, 569 F.2d at 485 & n.6; *United States v. Pheaster*, 544 F.2d 353, 366-68 (9th Cir. 1976), *cert. denied sub nom. Inciso v. United States*, 429 U.S. 1099 (1977).

Appellant argues that *In re C.P.D.*, *supra*, is distinguishable from this case because here the police officer did not merely overhear a discussion between parent and child, but rather created the situation which led to the confession made in the officer's presence. However, there was nothing improper in the officer's being present while mother and son were together. *See Fuller v. United*

States, supra. Even assuming that the officer hoped a confession would be forthcoming, that would be insufficient to taint the confession. The officer did not seek to conceal his presence, and he had again advised both appellant and appellant's mother of the youth's *Miranda* rights immediately before the mother sought to elicit the truth from her son.[7]

As for the comment allegedly made to the mother by another officer at the station house to the effect that she "should get him to tell what happened because he was in serious trouble," such a suggestion—if in fact it was made—perhaps might better have been left unsaid. However, such words, in the overall setting reflected by the record, do not render the subsequent confession involuntary. We note the following statement which was made by the Supreme Court in *Fare v. Michael C., supra*:

> The police did indeed indicate that a cooperative attitude would be to respondent's benefit, but their remarks in this regard were far from threatening or coercive. [99 S.Ct. at 2573.]

Finally, while we are sensitive to the teachings of *In re Gault, supra*, we do quote with approval the following language of this court which is expressive of the general acceptance of the parens patriae concept which remains inherent in our juvenile justice system:

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[7] Appellant also alleges that his statements which were made during the subsequent roundtable session with the other youths and parents should have been suppressed. However, in view of our conclusion that appellant's inculpatory statement to his mother was not the result of improper police activity, we see no error in the use of the second confession. (The record reflects that nothing critical to his guilt was revealed by appellant at the rountable session which he had not already revealed in response to his mother's questions.)

> In delinquency proceedings particularly, it is essential to balance the constitutional rights which relate to possible loss of liberty with the recognized modern approach and policy of care and treatment for the criminally-bent youth. This balancing cannot assume a legal incapacity to waive those rights without sacrificing, in many cases . . . the vital interests underlying the policies and goals of the juvenile court system. [*In re J.F.T., supra*, 320 A.2d at 324.]

Cf. Pee v. United States, 107 U.S.App.D.C. 47, 274 F.2d 556 (1959).

Affirmed.

FERREN, *Associate Judge*, dissenting: The majority today holds that when a juvenile in police custody is advised of his *Miranda*[1] rights and, after consultation with his mother, requests a lawyer and says he "doesn't want to talk," the police constitutionally may ignore his response, urge his mother minutes later to "get him to tell what happened," read the boy his rights once again, listen to him confess the crime as his mother repeatedly implores him "to tell the man the truth"—and then introduce that confession at trial. I dissent because I believe that C.P., under these circumstances, cannot be held to have waived his Fifth Amendment rights to silence and to counsel.[2]

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[1] *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966).

[2] I do not address the question whether C.P.'s Sixth Amendment right to counsel had attached under the circumstances of this case. *See Brewer v. Williams*, 430 U.S. 387, 398 (1977) ("right to counsel granted by the Sixth . . . Amendment[] means at least that a person is entitled to the help of a lawyer at or after the time that judicial proceedings have been

I.

The following sequence of events is undisputed: The police took appellant C.P. (then 13 years old) to Robbery Squad Headquarters at about 12:00 midnight; he expressed a desire to say nothing; his mother arrived at about 1:30 a.m.; the police gave C.P. a *Miranda* rights card and left him for awhile with his mother, who helped him read it. C.P. then signed the card, indicating that he understood his rights, did not wish to answer questions, and wanted an attorney. After signing the card, he told his mother that he did not want to say anything. At about this time, another police officer told C.P.'s mother that she "should get him to tell what happened because he was in serious trouble." Soon thereafter, one of the police officers who had been present when C.P. asserted his rights took C.P. and his mother aside, advised the youth again of his rights (without giving him a second card to sign), and informed his mother, in C.P.'s presence, that other youths had confessed and implicated C.P. At this point—it was 2:30 a.m., approximately 30 minutes after C.P. originally had invoked his *Miranda*

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initiated against him"). The Supreme Court declined an opportunity in *Brewer*, *supra*, to resolve questions concerning the interaction between the Fifth Amendment right to have counsel present during interrogation, *see Miranda*, *supra*, and the Sixth Amendment right to assistance of counsel. *See Massiah v. United States*, 377 U.S. 201 (1964). For helpful discussions of the interrelationship between these Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights, *see* Grano, *Rhode Island v. Innis: A Need to Reconsider the Constitutional Premises Underlying the Law of Confessions*, 17 AM. CRIM. L. REV. 1 (1979); Kamisar, *Brewer v. Williams, Massiah, and Miranda: What is "Interrogation"? When Does it Matter?* 67 GEO. L.J. 1 (1978); White, *Rhode Island v. Innis: The Significance of a Suspect's Assertion of His Right to Counsel*, 17 AM. CRIM. L. REV. 53 (1979).

rights—C.P.'s mother, while the officer sat there silently, urged her son over and over again to tell the truth.[3] Although he expressed great reluctance to talk, *see* note 3 *supra*, C.P. eventually confessed his involvement in an attempted robbery while armed.

II.

Miranda and its successors provide two levels of protection. Under the first, a law enforcement officer who proposes to interrogate a suspect in custody must give the necessary warnings and, before questioning begins, obtain a waiver of rights. Whether that waiver is knowing and voluntary is judged by reference to the "particular facts and circumstances." *North Carolina v. Butler*, 99 S.Ct. 1755, 1758 (1979). The second level of protection is triggered once a suspect asserts, rather than waives, *Miranda* rights. Thereafter, the officer may not interrogate unless the suspect decides to waive the asserted

[3] C.P.'s mother provided the following undisputed testimony on cross-examination:

A. I was telling him to tell the truth.
Q. And did he say something then?
A. He didn't want to talk.
Q. Did he tell you that he didn't want to talk?
A. Yes. He was telling the officer that he didn't want to say anything.
Q. Do you remember what he said to the officer?
A. No, not the exact words. He said he didn't want to say anything, he didn't have anything to say.
Q. And then what happened?
A. I told him to tell the truth. I kept telling him to tell the truth, more than once I know.
Q. Well, how many times did you say it?
A. I can't remember. I just kept repeating to him to tell the truth, tell the man the truth, tell what happened.
Q. And what did your son do?
A. He started talking to him.

rights, but there is an additional ingredient: no waiver can be valid unless the suspect's "right to cut off questioning" has been "scrupulously honored" up to the time of the waiver. *Michigan v. Mosley*, 423 U.S. 96, 104 (1975) (quoting *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 at 474, 479 (1966)). Thus, when the second level of protection is at issue, as in this case, the court confronts a two-step inquiry, *State v. Nash*, 407 A.2d 365, 367-68 (N.H. 1979): (1) Have law enforcement officials "scrupulously" refrained from interrogating the suspect once he or she has asserted *Miranda* rights? (2) If so, has there been a valid waiver, *see Johnson v. Zerbst*, 304 U.S. 458, 464 (1938), based on the "totality of the circumstances" surrounding the interrogation? *See Jackson v. United States*, D.C.App., 404 A.2d 911, 922 (1979).[4]

Once the court begins a second-level *Miranda* inquiry, the government inevitably has a heavier burden to show waiver than it does during a first-level inquiry, for it must demonstrate not only that the asserted rights have been "scrupulously honored" but also that the suspect has actually changed his or her mind. *See Nash*, *supra* at 368. We have emphasized, moreover, that "when the government attempts to show that a waiver of the right of counsel has been made after such right was once exercised, the government bears a greater burden than when it

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[4] If the suspect's rights have not been "scrupulously honored," in that the police have provided no demonstrable hiatus between assertion of rights and later questioning, that ends the inquiry. Waiver cannot be found, because there will not have been a period of time during which the suspect could reflect on a possible waiver, unaffected by police overreaching. *See Mosley*, *supra* at 102; *Peoples v. United States*, D.C.App., 395 A.2d 41, 44 (1978), *cert. denied*, 99 S.Ct. 2826 (1979); *United States v. Clayton*, 407 F.Supp. 204, 207 (E.D.Wis. 1976).

attempts to show a waiver of the right to remain silent." *Jackson*, *supra* at 922 (citing *Shreeves v. United States*, D.C.App., 395 A.2d 774, 781 (1978), *cert. denied*, 99 S.Ct. 2161 (1979)); *accord*, *United States v. Rodriguez-Gastelum*, 569 F.2d 482, 485 (9th Cir. 1978) (en banc); *Nash*, *supra* at 368.[3] This extra emphasis on protecting an assertion of the right to counsel is premised on the Supreme Court's recognition in *Brewer v. Williams*, 430 U.S. 387 (1977), that in contrast with a situation in which "the accused has chosen to make his own decisions," any waiver of the right to counsel, after once asserting it, represents a change in one's view of his or her own competence, which therefore "may properly be viewed with skepticism." *Id.* at 405 n.10 (quoting *Mosley*, *supra* at 110 n.2 (White, J. concurring)).

These principles apply to juveniles. Specifically, as to first-level *Miranda* waivers, this court has stated:

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[3] *Jackson*, *supra*, is a second-level *Miranda* inquiry, analyzing waiver of the Fifth Amendment right to counsel. In announcing a "greater burden" for waiver of the right to counsel, we relied on our decision in *Shreeves*, *supra*, a second-level inquiry into the uncounseled waiver of the Sixth Amendment right to counsel by a suspect who had already retained a lawyer. Thus, for a second-level inquiry, we have perceived no difference between the government's burdens to establish waiver of the Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights to counsel, *see Brewer*, *supra* at 430 n.1 (White, J., dissenting). Moreover, in both cases waiver is determined by reference to the "totality of the circumstances."

Nash, *supra*, makes the distinction between first- and second-level *Miranda* inquiries but, in contrast with *Jackson*, *supra*, the New Hampshire Supreme Court holds under the state constitution that "the right to freedom from self-incrimination include[s] the requirement that a voluntary oral or written *express waiver* (not induced by further interrogation) be obtained once the right to counsel is asserted." *Id.* at 368 (emphasis added).

> The pertinent factors to consider when determining the validity of waiver of constitutional rights of a juvenile include the individual's age, education and information, . . . the degree of experience with law enforcement, . . . the circumstances of the questioning, and delay between arrest and confession, and any allegations of coercion or trickery. . . . Thus, rather than giving overriding importance to any one factor, the court must consider the totality of circumstances surrounding the confession. [*Matter of D.A.S.*, D.C.App., 391 A.2d 255, 258 (1978) (citations omitted).]

Accord, Fare v. Michael C., 99 S.Ct. 2560, 2572 (1979); *Matter of W.B.W.*, D.C.App., 397 A.2d 143, 145 (1979).[8]

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[8] Consistent with this approach, we have "reject[ed] a so-called 'per se' rule arbitrarily holding any juvenile's statement involuntary absent the presence of a parent or counsel," *In re J.F.T.*, D.C.App., 320 A.2d 322, 324 (1974); *accord*, *Matter of W.B.W.*, *supra* at 146; *Matter of T.T.T.*, D.C.App., 365 A.2d 366, 370 n.5 (1976). *Contra, Lewis v. State*, 259 Ind. 431, 435, 288 N.E.2d 138, 142 (Ind. 1972) (court conditions validity of waiver on child's prior consultation with a parent or other responsible adult); *State v. Dino*, 359 So.2d 586, 591-92 (La.) *cert. denied*, 439 U.S. 1047 (1978) (same). On the other hand, it is clear that a youth's age, lack of experience and sophistication, and other factors can make parental or other adult participation essential to a valid waiver under certain circumstances. *See, e.g., McBride v. Jacobs*, 101 U.S. App.D.C. 189, 190, 247 F.2d 595, 596 (1957); *State v. Hogan*, 297 Minn. 430, 440, 212 N.W.2d 664, 671 (1973); *Commonwealth v. Roane*, 459 Pa. 389, 391, 329 A.2d 286, 288 (1974).

In all cases, of course, the proper question is whether the child, not the parent, exercised the right to invoke the privilege against self-incrimination. *See Matter of S.W.T.*, 277 N.W.2d 507, 512 (Minn. 1979); *cf. McBride*, *supra* at 190, 247 F.2d at 596 (waiver of the right to counsel is for the juvenile, not the parent, to make unless "the court finds for

We also adhere to the adult line of cases when considering second-level *Miranda* waivers. In *Matter of T.T.T.*, D.C.App., 365 A.2d 366 (1976), we sustained the trial court's suppression of a tape-recorded statement police had obtained from a juvenile sometime between "a few minutes" and two hours after he had "responded in writing on the form given him by the Youth Service officer that he would *not* answer questions without an attorney," and "had expressly asked" the officers "to terminate the written statement" he had begun earlier. *Id.* at 369.[7] We did so even though the juvenile, after asking for counsel, had willingly "resumed talking" with two homocide detectives and even "agreed" to tape record the conversation. *Id.*[8] *T.T.T.*, therefore, makes clear that a second-level waiver cannot be inferred more easily in the case of a juvenile than of an adult. When a child says he or she *does* want to remain silent and have a lawyer, the government has a substantial burden to show that the child later waived those rights.[9]

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any reason the minor is not capable of a waiver," in which case "the parent may so waive provided the court also finds there is no conflict of interest between them, and of course the waiver by the parent must be an intelligent, knowing act.").

[7] *Compare Taylor v. United States*, D.C.App., 380 A.2d 989, 993 (1977) (sustained trial court finding that youth had not asserted the right to counsel).

[8] It is interesting to note, however, that the boy had spoken with the police over a period of several hours before he asserted his rights. We reversed the trial court's suppression of his prior statements, concluding that some occurred before the police had taken him into "custody," while others had been made voluntarily after waivers of *Miranda* rights. *T.T.T.*, *supra* at 370.

[9] The present case adds a dimension not yet factored into a Supreme Court decision: a second-level inquiry into the

III.

Applying the foregoing principles to the undisputed facts of record, I conclude that the trial court committed reversible error in holding that, under the totality of the circumstances, appellant's incriminating statement "was not the result of continued questioning or interrogation by the officers," and that appellant in any event waived his rights to counsel and to silence. These conclusions are "without substantial support in the evidence." *Peoples v. United States*, D.C.App., 395 A.2d 41, 44 (1978), *cert. denied*, 99 S.Ct. 2826 (1979); *Taylor v. United States*, D.C.App., 360 A.2d 989, 992 (1977); *United States v.*

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alleged waiver of the Fifth Amendment right to counsel. *Fare*, *supra*, and *Mosley*, *supra*, were first- and second-level *Miranda* inquiries, respectively, into waiver of the right to remain silent. *Butler*, *supra*, was a first-level inquiry into waiver of the Fifth Amendment right to counsel.

On October 30, 1979, however, the Court heard argument in *Rhode Island v. Innis*, —— R.I. ——, 391 A.2d 1158 (1978), *cert. granted*, 440 U.S. 934 (1979), a case in which the suspect was arrested for a shotgun murder, given his *Miranda* warnings, asserted his right to be represented by counsel, and subsequently incriminated himself in response to a comment by the arresting officer in the suspect's presence to the effect that any child who found the shotgun very likely would get hurt. The Rhode Island Supreme Court concluded that the officer's speech constituted interrogation, even though it was neither directed at defendant nor made with the intention of eliciting incriminating evidence from him. The court also concluded that the suspect neither disavowed his request for an attorney nor otherwise waived his *Miranda* rights before the officer's remarks were made. The court held, on Fifth Amendment grounds, that the incriminating statements should have been suppressed. On the facts, therefore, *Innis* presents the Court with the Fifth Amendment analogue of *Brewer*, *supra*, a Sixth Amendment case. *See* note 2 *supra*.

Lyon, D.C.App., 348 A.2d 297, 299 (1975); D.C. Code 1973, § 17-305(a).[10]

A. First, the police did not "scrupulously honor" C.P.'s "right to cut off questioning" once he had asserted his rights to silence and a lawyer.[11] The uncontested facts of record support the conclusion that the police created a mother-son confrontation which led to the confession made in the officer's presence, and even the majority appears willing to assume that "the officer hoped a confession would be forthcoming" in their conversation. *Ante* at 12. The majority nonetheless accepts the trial court's findings that this was not a "ploy established or set up by the police for the purpose of inducing the respondent to waive his rights," and that C.P.'s incriminating statement was therefore "not the result of continued ques-

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[10] The majority diminishes our function on review by uncritically accepting the totality of the trial court's findings and conclusions. In assessing the circumstances surrounding the alleged waiver, we must weigh each of the trial court's findings against the evidence of record, for our standard of review is whether the findings have "*substantial* support in the evidence," *Peoples*, *supra* at 44 (emphasis added), not whether they are "without supporting evidence," as stated by the majority. *Ante* at 6 n.1. Under the proper standard, we are obliged to scrutinize the findings of the trial court and reverse where a conclusion of law is in apparent conflict with "the sequence of events and the trial court's other findings." *T.T.T.*, *supra* at 369. In fact, in *T.T.T.*, upon examination of the circumstances surrounding the questioning of a juvenile, we accepted the trial court's conclusion that the third statement given by T.T.T. was not voluntary, but reversed the same conclusion with respect to two earlier statements. *See* note 8 *supra*.

[11] *Compare In re C.P.D.*, D.C.App., 367 A.2d 133 (1976) (denial of motion to suppress incriminating statement upheld where youth, after asserting the right to silence *but not counsel*, made an inculpatory statement to his stepfather, overheard by police officer).

tioning or interrogation by the officers." I cannot accept those findings. They are unsupportable on this record. The confrontation between mother and son at police headquarters obviously would not have occurred without instigation by the police; C.P.'s mother accordingly became an agent for official interrogation. *See, e.g., State v. Kelly*, 439 S.W.2d 487 (Mo. 1969); *Commonwealth v. Mercier*, 451 Pa. 211, 302 A.2d 337 (1973); *Commonwealth v. Bordner*, 432 Pa. 405, 247 A.2d 612 (1968).

More specifically, within 30 minutes after C.P. had asked for a lawyer and said he did not "want to talk," the police urged C.P.'s mother to "get him to tell what happened." *See T.T.T., supra* at 369 & n.3; *United States v. Clayton*, 407 F.Supp. 204, 206 (E.D.Wis. 1976). The police then read C.P. his *Miranda* rights a second time, but altered the procedure used earlier by not giving him a rights card to sign. *Compare Mosley, supra* at 97-98; *Peoples, supra* at 43. Finally, the police did not give C.P. an opportunity, once again, to consult with his mother privately before she began to urge him "to tell the truth" to Officer Underwood. *See* note 3 *supra*. The loss of this opportunity was especially significant in light of new information, supplied by the police, that several youths had just implicated C.P. Under these circumstances, it cannot be said that there was a "momentary cessation," let alone a "significant period of time," *Mosley, supra* at 102, 106, during which C.P. could reflect before being pressed—over and over again—to tell the police what happened. *See* note 3 *supra*. On these facts, the trial court could not have found scrupulous police regard for C.P.'s "right to cut off questioning," as that concept is elaborated in *Mosley, supra*, and other cases.[12]

[12] In *Mosley, supra*, the Supreme Court held that admission of an incriminating statement did not violate *Miranda* principles because the period between assertion of the right to

B. Even if it could be said, by virtue of the second reading of *Miranda* rights, that the police had scrupu-

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silence and resumption of questioning was two hours; Mosley executed a written waiver after the second set of *Miranda* warnings; and a different police officer interrogated Mosley the second time at another location about a crime unrelated to the one with which he was first confronted.

In *Peoples, supra*, we reached the same result where the interval between initial and later questioning was six hours; interrogation resumed at People's request; and a judicial officer gave a second set of *Miranda* warnings, followed by a written waiver, before questioning took place.

In contrast, in *T.T.T., supra*, we upheld suppression of a statement which the juvenile "agreed" to make sometime between "a few minutes" and two hours after asserting the right to counsel in writing. Similarly, in *Clayton, supra*, the court held that the statement should have been suppressed because the interval between the original interrogation (ended by an assertion of *Miranda* rights) and the resumption of questioning was only 50 minutes, and on both occasions the same officer interrogated the suspect about the same crime—all factors which the court said were forbidden by *Mosley, supra*.

The circumstances of this case are decidedly closer to *T.T.T., supra*, and *Clayton, supra*, than to *Mosley, supra* or *Peoples, supra*. In reaching this conclusion I do not suggest that a 30-minute interval between assertion of rights and alleged waiver will never be long enough to assure that the right to cut off questioning has been scrupulously honored. Nor do I suggest that whenever parental consultation with a youth results in a written assertion of rights, the police can never acknowledge a waiver unless it also is in writing, after parental consultation. Nonetheless, whenever there has been a very short period of time since *Miranda* rights were asserted, and the *Miranda* procedure itself has been altered, and even private parental consultation has been abandoned between the assertion of rights and the alleged waiver, there must be powerful offsetting evidence before a court can find that the police scrupulously honored the youth's asserted rights to remain silent and to have a lawyer. Such offsetting evidence is simply not present in this case.

lously honored C.P.'s right to cut off questioning, the record does not support a finding that there was "a knowing, voluntary, and intelligent waiver of a known right." *Jackson*, *supra* at 922; *see Johnson*, *supra* at 464; *Nash*, *supra* at 368.

In a first-level *Miranda* inquiry, the Supreme Court recently stated that, absent an express waiver, "[t]he courts must presume that a defendant did not waive his rights; the prosecution's burden is great. . . ." *Butler*, *supra* at 1757; *see Matter of F.D.P.*, D.C.App., 352 A.2d 378, 380 (1976). The burden is all the greater for a second-level waiver, especially waiver of the right to counsel. *Jackson*, *supra* at 922.[13] We consider here an alleged waiver by a 13-year-old boy who had no prior experience with the law enforcement system and required his mother's assistance to read and understand the *Miranda* warnings in the first place. Then, after consulting with his mother, he asserted the rights to counsel and to silence. When the police read him his rights for a second time only 30 minutes later, and told his mother (in C.P.'s presence) that other youths had implicated her son, C.P. was not given another opportunity to consult privately with his mother. Nor was he even given an opportunity to reflect on the situation before his mother began to press him in front of a police officer to tell what happened—which for awhile C.P. resisted. *See* note 3 *supra*. Nor did he expressely waive his rights.

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[13] To assure that the government's heavy burden has been met, we have said that a second-level waiver of counsel must be documented through "explicit findings of fact" by the trial court. *Jackson*, *supra* at 922; *see Shreeves*, *supra* at 781. The trial court's findings here do not deal with waiver of counsel; they focus on waiving the right to silence. *See ante* at 3-5. In any event, as already indicated, I do not find record support for a waiver of the right to counsel.

Under these circumstances, I cannot agree that C.P.'s eventual willingness to answer his mother's questions in front of Officer Underwood—without more [14]—was sufficient to support a finding that C.P. made a knowing, voluntary, and intelligent waiver of his previously-asserted right to have a lawyer present before he said anything.[15] The circumstances were simply too coercive, too abruptly, to provide assurance that the government met its heavy burden of proof. Indeed, by virtue of the mother's role here vis-a-vis the police, this case conceptually is the same as if an officer did the questioning—a circumstance which, given C.P.'s stated reluctance to talk, is indistinguishable from one in which the police simply ignored the assertion of rights altogether. *See T.T.T., supra*: *Lyon, supra*. Because C.P.'s mother was acting as a police surrogate, not as his confidante—or at least was apparently unable to perceive and take time to explain her dual role to C.P.—there is even a strong argument that,

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[14] According to the Supreme Court in *Miranda, supra* at 475:

> An express statement that the individual is willing to make a statement and does not want an attorney followed closely by a statement could constitute a waiver. But a valid waiver will not be presumed simply from the silence of the accused after warnings are given or simply from the fact that a confession was in fact eventually obtained.

[15] *Compare T.T.T., supra* at 369-70 (second-level statement suppressed where juvenile, after asserting the right to counsel, "resumed talking" with police and "agreed" to tape-record conversation) *with Fare, supra* at 2572 (first-level statement admitted where, "after the police officer once more had explained his rights to him, respondent clearly expressed his willingness to waive his rights and continue the interrogation").

under the circumstances, C.P. could not waive his rights without a lawyer's help.[16]

IV.

The Supreme Court, in a case concerning a first-level waiver by a juvenile, recently affirmed the seriousness with which a suspect's request for a lawyer must be taken.

> Whether it is a minor or an adult who stands accused, the lawyer is the one person to whom society as a whole looks as the protector of the legal rights of that person in his dealings with

[16] I agree with the trial court that "parents ought to be asked to come to the precinct and to the Robbery Squad or any place else where a youngster is being held," and that nothing should preclude a parent's asking "a child to tell the truth or to make a statement concerning the incident." *Ante* at 4-5. The point here, though, is that the mother, after acting as C.P.'s confidante at the time he asserted his rights, either changed her mind or persisted in advice which C.P. had rejected in asserting his rights. Either way, a child who had been dependent on his mother for reading the rights card in the first place cannot be said to have waived his rights without, at the very least, a confidential discussion with his mother. Whether such a hiatus in the sequence of events would have been enough to remove the mother from the role of police surrogate (even though questioning took place while C.P. was in custody, with Officer Underwood present), and, in any event, whether C.P., given such additional time to reflect, could be found to have knowingly and voluntarily waived his rights, having asked for a lawyer "a few minutes earlier," *T.T.T.*, *supra* at 360, is problematic. The trial court must be sure that the waiver is the child's not the parent's. *See McBride*, *supra* at 190, 247 F.2d at 596; *S.W.T.*, *supra*; note 6 *supra*. For all the encouragement the court should give to parent-child consultation, the court, above all, must be sure that the child's own decision as to assertion of rights or waiver is honored.

> the police and the courts. For this reason the Court fashioned in *Miranda* the rigid rule that an accused's request for an attorney is *per se* an invocation of his Fifth Amendment rights, requiring that all interrogation cease. [*Fare*, *supra* at 2569.] [17]

By sustaining the trial court's ruling, in effect, that C.P.'s right to cut off questioning had been scrupulously honored, and that he waived his rights—including the right to a lawyer—this court has completely ignored the government's heavy burden during a second-level *Miranda* inquiry into waiver of counsel. The court impermissibly cheapens Fifth Amendment rights.

I would reverse and remand to the trial court for an order granting C.P.'s motion to suppress.

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[17] As indicated earlier, we have said that a suspect can make a second-level waiver of the Fifth Amendment right to counsel (commonly without consulting an attorney) based on the totality of the circumstances. *See Jackson*, *supra*. That question is now before the Supreme Court in *Innis*, *supra*. *See* note 9 *supra*.

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BRIEF FOR RESPONDENT IN OPPOSITION

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

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October Term, 1980

No. 80-5132

C. P.,

Petitioner,

v.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

Respondent.

On Petition For A Writ of Certiorari To The
District Of Columbia Court Of Appeals

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QUESTION PRESENTED

Whether the District of Columbia courts correctly ruled (1) that petitioner was not interrogated by the police following his invocation of rights to remain silent and to counsel, and (2) that petitioner's confession was a result of questioning by his mother and not the product of any police interrogation.

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BRIEF FOR RESPONDENT IN OPPOSITION

STATEMENT

Petitioner seeks review of a decision of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals affirming his adjudication of delinquency, in the Family Division of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The adjudication, under which petitioner was placed on court supervised probation, is based upon a finding that he is guilty of attempted armed robbery, in violation of D. C. Code, 1973, §§ 22-2902 and 22-3202.[1] Petitioner contends that introduction at the "fact finding hearing"[2]

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[1] These provisions of the criminal code are made applicable in juvenile proceedings by D. C. Code, 1973, § 16-2301(7), which defines "delinquent act" as, inter alia, an act designated as an offense under the law of the District of Columbia.

[2] Juvenile proceedings in the Superior Court consist of a "fact finding hearing" in which it is determined whether the juvenile committed the "delinquent act" alleged in the petition. A "disposition hearing" is held after it is determined that the juvenile committed the "delinquent act" alleged. The focus of the "disposition hearing" is (1) whether the juvenile is "in need of care or rehabilitation," and, if so, (2) the proper disposition. D. C. Code, 1973, §§ 16-2316, 2317, 2320, 2322.

of a confession made by him while in custody violates his Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination.

The relevant testimony elicited at the fact finding hearing, and at the hearing on the motion to suppress petitioner's confession which preceded it, is essentially as follows:

At approximately 10:30 p.m. on April 29, 1977, the complainant, Karen Johnson, who was driving alone, stopped her car at a red light at 4th Street and Constitution Avenue, Northeast, Washington, D. C. Four juveniles, one female and three males, then approached her. The female was about 14-15 years old; the males were younger, 12-14 years old, and included petitioner (Tr. 55-56, 59). The female told Ms. Johnson that they needed help, and Ms. Johnson reacted by turning around and locking her doors. When she turned forward, she saw that one of the young men was pointing "a very dark steel gun" at her, the type of gun that "you would see on television" (Tr. 55-57). Ms. Johnson then ducked her head, stepped hard on the accelerator, and sped away. She went to a friend's house nearby, where she reported the incident by telephone to the Metropolitan Police Department.

In response to the report, Officers Spooner Underwood and Robert M. Washington, arrested petitioner, another male juvenile, and a female juvenile approximately 15 minutes after Ms. Johnson was accosted. Petitioner and the other male juvenile were each carrying BB gun pistols, which resembled the automatic pistols issued to U. S. military officers (Tr. 61, 63). Officers Underwood and Washington immediately transported the three juveniles to the home that Ms. Johnson was visiting for a show-up identification. Ms. Johnson identified the female juvenile as the person who had approached her 25-30 minutes earlier. She was unable to identify petitioner or the other youth (Tr. 56, 58-59).

The police officers then took the juveniles to a police substation and later to Robbery Squad Headquarters at about 12:00 midnight.

Upon learning the identify of the juveniles, the police contacted their parents and requested that they come to the Robbery Squad offices.

At the time of his arrest, petitioner asserted his right to remain silent.[3] At about 1:30 a.m., petitioner's mother arrived at the Robbery Squad. Officer Underwood told her that charges had been placed against her son, that she could sit with him, and that he (Underwood) would talk to her and petitioner later (Tr. 19). Petitioner was then given a "rights card" printed by the Metropolitan Police Department. Following the reading of the card in his mother's presence, petitioner answered the questions on the card and signed it. He noted on the card that he had been advised of his rights and understood them, that he wished to remain silent, and that he did not wish to answer questions without an attorney (Tr. 6, 18, 21, 38, 49).

Petitioner's mother testified that an officer she was unable to identify told her, upon her arrival at the Robbery Squad, that her son was the only juvenile not talking and that she should get her son to tell what happened because he was in serious trouble (Tr. 31, 37).[4]

About 30 minutes after petitioner provided written answers to the questions on the rights card, Officer Underwood accompanied him and his mother to an office at the Robbery Squad. The officer again advised

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[3] The Court of Appeals has construed the principles enunciated in Miranda v. Arizona, 384 U. S. 436 (1966), as fully applicable to juveniles, accused of delinquent conduct. E.g., In re Creek, D. C. App., 243 A. 2d 49 (1968). This Court has left open the question whether " * * * Miranda applies with full force to exclude evidence obtained in violation of its prescriptions from consideration in juvenile proceedings * * *." Fare v. Michael C., 442 U. S. 707, 717, n. 4 (1979).

[4] The trial court made no express credibility finding regarding this testimony. The Court of Appeals majority questioned whether she was in fact told that she should prevail upon her son to talk. 411 A. 2d at 649.

them that petitioner "had been advised of his rights and that he did not have to make a statement at that time" (Tr. 8-9, 12). He then told petitioner and his mother that he had spoken with the other juveniles arrested with petitioner, that they had confessed, and that they " * * * had put most of the weight on * * * [petitioner] saying he was involved in the crime more than the other[s] (Tr. 8, 19). Petitioner's mother subsequently told petitioner that if he knew anything about the attempted robbery, to "come out with it now and get it over with" (Tr. 9).

Petitioner at first said nothing. However, after repeated urgings from his mother to tell what he knew, petitioner confessed his involvement in the attempted robbery of Ms. Johnson. He admitted having a pistol, but stated that he was not the only one with a pistol. He also stated he had been involved in several other attempted robberies that night (Tr. 10, 32-33, 79). His mother testified that she had not yelled at her son or threatened him with punishment if he failed to make a statement (Tr. 35). Officer Underwood did not ask the mother to tell her son to make a statement. Nor did he ever assert that it would be "better" for him to do so (Tr. 19).

After petitioner made his confession, an oral statement not recorded by the police, petitioner and his mother entered a conference room, where the other two juveniles were seated with their parents. Each juvenile, including petitioner, then described the attempted robbery and the role that he or she played therein (Tr. 11-12, 20). Again, these were oral statements, not recorded by the police (Tr. 20).

At the conclusion of the hearing, the trial court denied the motion to suppress petitioner's statements. Specifically, the court found that petitioner understood his rights. The court also found that petitioner's initial inculpatory statement "was not the result of continued questioning or interrogation by the officers, but was * * * a result of a conversation between the respondent and his

mother" (Tr. 49). The court further stated:

> * * * The Court does not find that the mother employed any kind of coercion or that this was a ploy established or set up by the police for the purpose of inducing the respondent to waive his rights. Indeed it appears to the Court and the Court finds that this respondent was responding to his mother's urging, albeit, in the presence of the officer when he gave the incriminating statement.
>
> * * *
>
> And as far as it appears the officer had respected this younster's indication that he did not wish to speak, and as previously stated there was no questioning by the police (Tr. 49-50).

Upon its review of the record, the Court of Appeals expressed its agreement with the findings and conclusions of the trial court. It, accordingly, affirmed the judgment of the Family Division of the Superior Court. Following denial of a petition for rehearing and suggestion for rehearing en banc, petitioner filed a certiorari petition.

REASONS FOR DENYING THE WRIT

I

Because the police did not engage in custodial interrogation and because the confession was not the product of any action or statement of the police, the decision of the Court of Appeals does not conflict with the decision in Rhode Island v. Innis.

Petitioner requests that the Court exercise its certiorari jurisdiction on the ground that there is a direct conflict between the decision of the Court of Appeals and this Court's decision in Rhode Island v. Innis, ____ U. S. ____, 100 S. Ct. 1682 (1980). No such conflict exists. The communications of the police officers with petitioner and his mother did not constitute interrogation within the guidelines set out in Innis, and petitioner's confession was not the product of police questioning. As recognized by the

trial court and the Court of Appeals, the confession was made upon the urgings of petitioner's mother and was not the product of any acts of the police.

Respondent acknowledges that petitioner was in custody when he confessed to the attempted robbery of Ms. Johnson. Additionally, he had indicated that he wished to remain silent and had requested the assistance of counsel during any interrogation of him by the police. Thus, assuming that Miranda v. Arizona, 384 U. S. 436 (1966), applies with full force to exclude evidence obtained in violation of its prescriptions from juvenile proceedings, petitioner is entitled to suppression of his confession only if it was the product of police interrogation.

Petitioner asserts that two statements by the police constitute impermissible interrogation in violation of Miranda prescriptions. The first of these was the statement, allegedly made to petitioner's mother by an unidentified police officer, that the other juveniles arrested with petitioner were talking and she should tell petitioner to do likewise as he was in deep trouble.[5] Petitioner, in the presence of his mother, was twice given Miranda warnings after that statement was made. The second statement, made at least an hour after the first and preceded by fresh Miranda warnings, was that by Officer Underwood that the juveniles arrested with petitioner had confessed to the attempted robbery and had implicated petitioner. The opinion of the Court of Appeals contains ample support for its holding that these statements do not constitute interrogation. 411 A. 2d 647-648. This Court's decision in Innis does not compel a contrary conclusion.

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[5] As previously noted, the Court of Appeals questioned whether this statement was in fact made to her. See Note 4.

In Innis, this Court established the following guidelines for determining whether statements or other actions constitute custodial interrogation:

> * * * [T]he special procedural safeguards outlined in Miranda are required not where a suspect is simply taken into custody, but rather where a suspect in custody is subjected to interrogation. "Interrogation," as conceptualized in the Miranda opinion, must reflect a measure of compulsion above and beyond that inherent in custody itself."
>
> We conclude that the Miranda safeguards come into play whenever a person in custody is subjected to either express questioning or its functional equivalent. That is to say, the term "interrogation" under Miranda refers not only to express questioning, but also to any words or actions on the part of the police (other than those normally attendant to arrest and custody) that the police should know are reasonably likely to elicit an incriminating response from the suspect. The latter portion of this definition focuses primarily upon the perceptions of the suspect, rather than the intent of the police. This focus reflects the fact that the Miranda safeguards were designed to vest a suspect in custody with an added measure of protection against coercive police practices, without regard to objective proof of the underlying intent of the police. A practice that the police should know is reasonably likely to evoke an incriminating response from a suspect thus amounts to interrogation. But, since the police surely cannot be held accountable for the unforeseeable results of their words or actions, the definition of interrogation can extend only to words or actions on the part of police officers that they should have known were reasonably likely to elicit an incriminating response. [Footnotes omitted; emphasis in original; 100 S. Ct. at 1689-90.]

Plainly, Officer Underwood's truthful statement to petitioner and his mother that the other juveniles had confessed was not interrogation within this standard. The statement was declaratory in form and was preceded by fresh Miranda warnings. Thus, both petitioner and his mother were explicitly reminded that petitioner could remain silent and consult with a lawyer. Cf. Michigan v. Mosley, 423 U. S. 96,

106 (1975). Moreover, petitioner continued to assert his right to remain silent after the statement. It was only in response to later questioning by his mother that he confessed.

Viewed in isolation, the earlier statement might be seen as a violation of the Innis standard. However, the Court of Appeals did not analyze it as an isolated statement. It concluded that the statement should be viewed " * * * in the overall setting reflected by the record * * * ." 411 A. 2d at 649. In that setting, it concluded that Miranda standards were not violated.

This statement, under the account given by petitioner's mother, preceded the confession by at least an hour. During that period, petitioner was twice given Miranda warnings in the presence of his mother, and he was permitted to consult with her in private. Given this setting, together with the lengthy lapse of time between the statement and the confession, the statement can hardly be termed "interrogation" as that term has been defined in Miranda or Innis. And, as the Court of Appeals observed, consistent with this Court's observations in Fare v. Michael C., 442 U. S. 707, 727 (1979)(cf. 411 A. 2d at 649), a similar statement, made directly to an uncounseled juvenile, was not an impermissible attempt to induce the juvenile to waive his right to remain silent.

Petitioner has failed to address the alternative holding of the Court of Appeals, sustaining a finding of fact by the trial court, that petitioner's "confession was not the result of police initiated interrogation, but rather of well-intentioned parental influence." 411 A. 2d at 648. This holding, which has strong support in the record, renders irrelevant the question of whether the police engaged in impermissible interrogation.

It is clear that impermissible interrogation, standing alone, does not compel suppression of a confession. As stated in Innis:

> * * * But that [interrogation violating Miranda strictures] is not the end of the inquiry. It must also be established that a suspect's incriminating response was the product of words or actions on the part of the police * * *. [100 S. Ct. at 1691.]

Here, the trial court and the Court of Appeals found that the confession was not the "product" of the alleged constitutional violation. Thus, even assuming there was a constitutional violation by interrogation after Miranda rights were asserted, that violation did not taint the confession and denial of the suppression motion was, accordingly, correct.

II

Because the Court has previously articulated detailed standards for determining whether Miranda rights have been waived, there is no need for the Court to give additional guidance.

Petitioner contends that the Court should grant certiorari on the ground that it has failed to elucidate, in its previous decisions, "the standards for a valid waiver [of Miranda rights] where a suspect * * * invokes his right to remain silent, and his right to the assistance of counsel." He asserts that this Court should "fill" this "gap in Miranda jurisprudence" (Pet. at 9-10).

The Court has previously spoken on this issue on numerous occasions. Under the standards established, a court must engage in the substantive determination of whether a suspect has knowingly and intelligently waived his Miranda rights. North Carolina v. Butler, 441 U. S. 369, 373 (1979). This determination is made upon an analysis of the totality of the circumstances surrounding the confession; it requires that "evaluation [be made] of the juvenile's age, experience, education, background, and intelligence, and whether he has the capacity to understand the warnings given him. * * * " Fare v. Michael C., 442 U. S. 707, 725 (1979); Michigan v. Mosley, 423 U. S. 96 (1975).

The Court of Appeals and the trial court employed this standard. Although petitioner asserts that an additional standard should be elucidated, he fails to state any reason that the existing standard is inadequate or to offer any suggestion regarding the content of the standard he proposes. Clearly, he has not advanced adequate justification for the exercise of certiorari jurisdiction.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated, the Court should deny the Petition for a Writ of Certiorari.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Brief for Respondent in Opposition was mailed, postage prepaid, this 3rd day of October 1980, to Silas J. Wasserstrom, Esquire, and William J. Mertens, Esquire, Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, 451 Indiana Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C. 20001, Attorneys for Petitioner.

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